

WEEKLY CALENDAR OF MINISTRIES

MARCH 1 - MARCH 7

SUNDAY, March 1

- 8:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service
- 9:50 a.m. Sunday School
- 11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Service
- 5:00 p.m. Youth

MONDAY, March 2

- 7:00 a.m. Men's Prayer Breakfast
- 6:00 p.m. Charity Circle

TUESDAY, March 3

- 10:00 a.m. Bunco
- 6:30 p.m. Trustees

WEDNESDAY, March 4

- 5:15 p.m. Potluck Meal
- 5:45 p.m. Praise Band Practice
- 6:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study
- 6:00 p.m. Youth/Children Activities
No Choir practice

ST. ANDREW'S
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
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Cullman, AL 35055-4729
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Return Service Requested

We're on the web!
standrewsumc.org

The Monthly Newsletter of St. Andrew's United Methodist Church

ST AND NEWS

Volume 23, Number 2

February 19, 2020

It's Raining

*You heavens above, rain down my righteousness; let the clouds shower it down.
Let the earth open wide, let salvation spring up, let righteousness flourish with it;
I, the LORD, have created it. Isaiah 45:8*

Do you like the rain? As I write this, the rain is pouring down. I've looked out the window for sightings of cats and dogs, but I've only seen raindrops! We tend to not like rain very much. It gets in the way of our obsession with comfort. Rain gets in the way of the comfort of a dry day. Rain gets in the way of the comfort of nicely coiffed hair. Rain gets in the way of dry shoes and pressed clothes. It makes outdoor entertainment and activities difficult.

Few of us look out the window on a rainy day and say, "What a great day!" But that's exactly what God's people in the Old Testament did. When you're living in desert-like places, a rainy day is a good day.

In the Bible, rain is often used as a metaphor for blessing. The Bible talks about blessings raining down on us. Perhaps there's a connection between the way we tend to respond to rain and the way we tend to respond to blessing.

God blesses us in surprising ways, ways that don't always seem like blessing. He sends the rain of difficulty, not because he doesn't love us, but because he does, and he's calling us beyond ourselves to find new and deeper hope in him.

He sends the rain of an honest friend to confront us with the need for growth, because he wants to bless us with maturity. He sends the rain of failure, so that we'll get our identity from him and not from our achievement. He sends the rain of want, so that we'll grow in faith and courage. All of these things are blessings of his love, but we tend to not see them as blessings. In fact, in the moments when we're experiencing these things we're often tempted to question God's love.

How about looking out your window and thanking God for the rain. And how about asking him to give you eyes to see the surprising blessings he'll rain down on you because he loves you.

May God rain his blessings on you until you are sopping wet!

ST. ANDREW'S STAFF

Ministers
The Entire Congregation

Senior Pastor
Chuck Worley

Children's Director
Kellie Britton

Minister of Music
Dale Moore

Organist
Jannie Ratliff

Youth Director
David Speegle

Office Administrator
Lori Tafazoli

Preschool Director
Tiffany Johnson

OUR VISION:

Our vision is to be a worshipping, loving and witnessing church in Cullman County where disciples of Jesus Christ live out their call to ministry and are nurtured in small groups.

Our Mission:
Reach the lost,
nurture the
faithful.





Save the Date
Re Sound Gospel Group
Sunday, March 15th
5:00 p.m.
St. Andrew's Sanctuary
Bring a friend and enjoy

WE COVENANT WITH GOD THROUGH . . . OUR PRAYERS

Health and Healing: Terry Armstrong, Kandi Foust Barnett, Levi Bates, Rhea Bearden, Lori Bice, Jenifer Brown, Andrew Buckalew, Carl Buttke, Edna Byrd, Freddie Byrd, Nancy Carmichael, Cheryl Crider, Michael Devine, Matthew Edmondson, Bobbie Fell, Cathy Fincher, Pressley Gardner, Tiffany Godfrey, Sara Myers Gross, Faye Hall, Ronda Harris, Bruce Henry, Tom Hinkle, Pete Ivey, Charles Jackson, Ron Jasper, Will Jasper, Joshua Jones, Alice Keenum, Shirley Long, Mitch Maddox, Christie McAbee, Tracy McGhee, Randall & Sandra McGlaughn, Mickey Megginson, Andrea Prater, Trisha Prater, Sara & Bud Pritcett, Martha Roberson, Mike Russell, Dorothy Sinyard, Lucille Slade, Marsha Smith, Michael Smith, Phyllis Smith, Anna Sparks, Jason Teeter, Sherri Troxler, Beverly Turner, Gary Turner, Jr., Stephanie Usher

Homebound, Nursing Home or Assisted Living: Rose Akers, Erma Barnett, Marilyn Bell, Tom & Dot Burleson, Jim & Pat Cleghorn, Peggy Doss, Margaret Gill, Louie & Frances Harbison, Elwanda Houston, Eulala McCain, Jo Ann McMillan, John & Connie New, Rhonda Oakley, Rheva Patton, Jeanell Raney, Jean Sellers, Joyce Sparks, Margaret Stallings, Imogene Turner, Edna Wade, Don Wiggins, Norma Wrenn

Active Military: Tim Anderson, Justin Bloom, Michael Cavanaugh, Sam Cretser, Landon Elliott, James Heard, Austin Hubbard, Josh Laspin, Chris Leon, Grant Pinkley, Malcolm Riker, Angelo Rossi, Tony Ruchl, Josh Ryan, Mark Smith, Matthew Steele, Dylan Tindale, Kevin White, Doreann Wiley

<u>MARCH SERVANTS</u>	<u>OUR ATTENDANCE</u>	
8:30 a.m. Worship <i>Altar:</i> Dianne Herfurth <i>Make Coffee:</i> Rita Speegle <i>Worship Greeters:</i> David & Helen Fisher <i>Hand Out Bulletins:</i> Gary & Teresa Lasdon <i>Take Up Offering:</i> Randy and Sheila Nails <i>Pick Up Attendance Pad:</i> Helen Fisher & Wendy Ryan <i>Scripture Reader:</i> Connie Butler	January 26	67 <u>80</u> 147 99
Sunday, March 1 <i>Refreshments:</i> Rhonda Brown <i>Security:</i> Wendy Ryan <i>Honeybees:</i> Emma Tafazoli <i>Set up Chairs:</i> Kay & Mickey Phillips <i>Communion Servers:</i> Billy & Judy Bonds, James & Clara Laminack, Linda Hall and Rita Speegle	February 2	74 <u>68</u> 142 101
11:00 a.m. Worship <i>Altar:</i> Hilda Aldridge <i>Head Usher:</i> Eddie Hart <i>Ushers:</i> Carolyn Eller, Frances Cooper, Jared Shelton and Danny Tekulve <i>Pick Up Attendance Pads:</i> Carolyn Eller & Sandra Britton <i>Organize Pew Racks:</i> Carolyn Eller <i>Scripture Reader:</i> Susan Copeland <i>Acolyte:</i> Seth Shelton	February 9	63 <u>75</u> 138 101
Sunday, March 1 <i>Honeybees:</i> Lori Tafazoli <i>Communion Servers:</i> Sandra Britton, Carol Law, Doyle & Carolyn Jones <i>Prayer Partners:</i> Frances Cooper	February 16	65 <u>75</u> 140 103
Prayer Chain Contacts: Kay Phillips: 205-540-6679 (cell); 256-796-8125 (home) kparkerphillips@gmail.com Lori Tafazoli: 256-509-4985 (cell); tafazoli@juno.com	OUR VISITORS	
	Lisa Coleman Christine & Clay Fowler Adam Martin Candler McSwain Kelsey Moore Polly Schilling	
		
	Youth Snack Supper Schedule	
	3/1 - Anna Calvert 3/8 - Kay Phillips 3/15 - Wendy Ryan 3/22 - Kellie Britton 3/29 - No Youth	
		

Upcoming Meetings & Events


Charity Circle
Monday, March 2 at 6:00 p.m.
Bunco
Tuesday, March 3 at 10:00 a.m.
Trustees
Tuesday, March 3 at 6:30 p.m.
Friendship Circle
Tuesday, March 10 at 1:00 p.m.
Finance Meeting
Thursday, March 12 at 6:00 p.m.
Eagle Scout Meeting
Thursday, March 12 at 7:00 p.m.
Church Council
Sunday, March 15 at 4:00 p.m.
Emmaus
Tuesday, March 17 at 6:00 p.m.
Traveling Saints
Thursday, March 19
Stephen Ministry Supervision
Monday, March 23 at 6:00 p.m.
Swamp John's
Tuesday, March 24 at 4:00 p.m.
Newsletter Folding
Wednesday, March 25 at 9:30 a.m.
Church Work Day
Saturday, March 28 at 8:00 a.m.



The church office is closed on Fridays. If you have an emergency please contact me on my cell phone, Lori Tafazoli - 256-509-4985.



Swamp John's
Tuesday, March 24
4 p.m. - 7 p.m.
\$12/plate
Sponsored by Charity Circle



Sunday, March 29
Combined 5th Sunday Worship
The Choir & Praise Team
Easter Worship Service
"Is He Worthy"
Potluck meal to follow in the Fellowship Hall

Save the Date
Traveling Saints
Sunday, March 19
Catfish Cabin & Vanity Fair and Ollies in Albertville
More information coming in the bulletin.

DO YOU KNOW UMCOR?

UMCOR stands for United Methodist Committee on Relief and will be the focal point of a Special Sunday Service in March. When watching disaster unfold around the globe, many of us feel the call to help but are at a loss as to what we can actually do to help. UMCOR Sunday is the day for congregations around the globe to help. UMCOR offers aid in Jesus' name to those who suffer:

- When tornadoes ripped through Oklahoma, we responded.
- When children in Zimbabwe lost parents to AIDS, we responded.
- When a massive tsunami devastated lives in Japan, we responded.

And when the next crisis occurs, we will be prepared to respond. On this Special Sunday on March 22, 2020 our generosity as a church covers the operating budget of UMCOR. This allows them to funnel 100% of other donations received throughout the year directly to relief efforts. UMCOR Sunday is where we come together to help. If you want to learn more about UMCOR visit: www.umcgiving.org/UMCOR

Bishop Wallace-Padgett announces a called special session

Bishop Wallace-Padgett has announced a special session of the North Alabama Conference if needed for Saturday, August 15, 2020, at Asbury UMC in Birmingham. "The purpose of the special session of the annual conference will be to address such matters as may affect the future of the North Alabama Conference, its local churches, clergypersons, employees and church members, following the conclusion of General Conference 2020." A decision regarding holding this called annual conference will be announced after General Conference and information regarding the session will be distributed to all clergy and lay members of the Annual Conference.